

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

CONTACT

Paula Freund

Public Information Officer

Email: pfreund@indygov.org

Phone: (317) 327-7035

Mobile: (317) 442-7578

**INDY PARKS RELEASES PROPOSED 2009 PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN***Comprehensive plan update, drafted in response to public feedback gathered in 2008, awaits approval*

INDIANAPOLIS — (March 24, 2009) Indy Parks & Recreation today released the draft of the 2009 update to the department's comprehensive plan, the Indianapolis-Marion County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan. The comprehensive plan results from more than a year-long process of meetings, internal staff retreats and survey data collection. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) requires the plan be updated every five years.

The 2009 plan requires approval of and adoption by the Board of Parks and Recreation, IDNR, and the Metropolitan Development Commission (MDC) of Marion County. The proposed plan will be submitted to the Board of Parks and Recreation for approval at its regularly scheduled meeting at 3:45 p.m. Thursday, March 26, 2009, at Brookside Park Family Center, 3500 Brookside Parkway South Drive.

The proposed 2009 Indianapolis-Marion County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan can be viewed online at <http://www.indy.gov/EGOV/CITY/DPR/ADMIN/PLANNING/Pages/home.aspx>. Questions from the public regarding the plan should be directed to the Indy Parks Planning Office at (317) 327-5725.

Indy Parks solicited public input and participation through two rounds of public meetings in 2008, user and focus groups surveys in 2008, and internal staff retreats in 2008 and 2009. Citizen and user input along with state and national data assist Indy Parks staff in analyzing the city's park and recreation needs, evaluating universal accessibility in city parks, establishing priorities, and determining a schedule for implementation and completion. Plan components include park facility inventory, natural and cultural resource inventories, national recreation standards, recommendations for future needs and trends, and an implementation and action plan.

About Indy Parks & Recreation

Indy Parks & Recreation operates 206 properties and maintains more than 11,000 acres of greenspace. Its mission is to create fun, safe, engaging and sustainable parks that enhance the quality of life for individuals, neighborhoods and communities. Indy Parks will be a national model of excellence and destination for facilities and programs, protecting parks, greenways and open spaces and championing environmental initiatives.

-- 30 --



Indy Parks and Recreation • Public Information Office • 200 East Washington Street • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

[317] 327-7035 • [317] 327-7097 fax • www.indyparks.org